



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

April 13, 2006



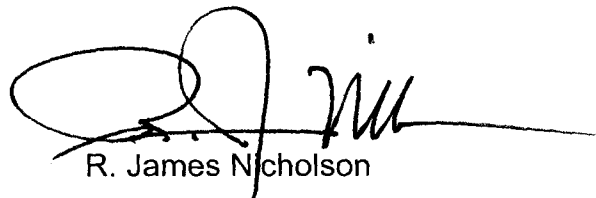
Commemorating 75 Years of Service

**MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Fiscal Year 2006 Appropriations Act established an Information Technology (IT) appropriation account that includes rigid fiscal controls over non-payroll expenditures for all IT programs managed within VA. I believe the clear intent of Congress was for VA to achieve greater accountability and control over IT expenditures (pay and non-pay), as well as improved program execution for specific IT programs under the Federated model approved by the Secretary. In this regard, the following policy is established immediately in the Department:

"All funds allocated for pay and non-pay (IT) maintenance and operations functions shall be obligated or committed for IT programs only as specifically authorized by the Chief Information Officer (CIO) or his/her designee(s), or as otherwise directed by me. Funds associated with pay and non-pay for support of development IT programs shall be obligated or committed by the Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and other key officials, or their designee(s), only after consultation and coordination with the CIO. I authorize the CIO, Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and other key officials to delegate their respective authorities and responsibilities in this regard at his or her discretion.

The document of record for all IT programs will be the approved OMB 300 document, changes to which must be approved by the CIO in consultation with the business line owners. Amounts appropriated to the Department and allocated for IT (pay and non-pay) for any fiscal year shall be monitored within the Department, consistent with the approved OMB 300 documents and the provisions of the applicable Appropriations Act(s), in such a manner as shall be specified and approved by the CIO."



R. James Nicholson